

16. FIRST RECORD OF THE SKINK *MABUYA BEDDOMII* (JERDON)  
[SAURIA : SCINCIDAE] FROM ORISSA, INDIA

During the course of studies on some unnamed reptiles brought from Orissa Survey, 1975-76 by Shri D. P. Sanyal and party, we came across a well-preserved specimen of the Skink, *Mabuya beddomii* (Jerdon), in the collections of the Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta. According to authoritative literature it has not been earlier recorded from Orissa. Smith (1935)<sup>1</sup> recorded the occurrence of the species from Berar, Salem, Tirunelvely, Malabar, Mysore, Sivagiri and the Annamalai Hills within the Indian limits. Elsewhere it is known from Punduloya, Sri Lanka. The present finding, is significant extension of its zoogeographical distribution to north-east of the peninsula.

***Mabuya beddomii* (Jerdon)**

1870 *Euprepes beddomii* Jerdon, *Proc. Asiat. Soc. Bengal.* March, 1870, p. 73 [type loc. Mysore; B.M. (N.H.), London].

**MATERIAL :** 1 ex., ♂, INDIA : Orissa, Keonjhor District, Ghatgaon, December 22, 1975, coll. D. P. Sanyal (Z.S.I. Regd. No. 23265).

**Measurements :** Standard length 55 mm, total length 154 mm, and tail 99 mm.

<sup>1</sup> SMITH, M. A. (1935) : *Fauna Brit. India including Ceylon and Burma, Amphibia and Reptilia*, Taylor & Francis (London), 2 (Sauria), i-xii—1-440.

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27, CHOWRINGHEE ROAD,  
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**Pholidosis & diagnosis :** Head comparatively small ; snout obtusely pointed, a pair of nuchals, post nasal absent. Lower eye-lid scaly ; temporal scale smooth. Ear opening sub-circular, about as large as lateral scale, with 4 pointed lobules anteriorly. Dorsal and lateral scale sub-equal, dorsal with 3 feebly keeled scales. 32 scales round the body. Digits moderately long, 15 strongly keeled lamellae beneath fourth toe. Hind-limb not reaching the wrist.

**Colour, in alcohol :** A broad brownish band present along either side of head and upper part of flanks ; it is edged above and below with a white streak, the lower part of which starts from upper lip and passes through the ear ; in its turn it is edged below by brown ; top of head with small longitudinal markings ; whitish below.

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